



BASIC ENCAMPMENT & RCLS 2011

19-20 February 2011

Required Staff Training

First RST of the Year!

February's RST kicked off the official start of Encampment, with the entire cadet and senior staff meeting together — knowing who was who, and getting to know each other. Learning from the Core 4, as well as the Encampment Commander, the Commandant of Cadets, the XO, the Deputy Commander, and the Senior Members, with their diverse experience and skills, was definitely an enlightening experience for many. Much of the weekend was spent in the classroom, using cadet participation as well as chocolate (courtesy of Captain Maver) to capture our attention and teach us what we need to know to not only instruct the incoming basics, but also the continuing generations of cadet staff. The friends, knowledge, and experiences we get at the RSTs and Basic Encampment are invaluable.



Intro to AFOATS Training Manual - C/SrA Brett Martin



All the topics covered at this first RST taught us how to approach situations we may encounter, our responsibilities in a leadership role, and its tools. One of those tools is the AFOATS training guide, which is a procedure used by the Air Force for instructing their future leaders. It informs about how a good leader should act, with one core lesson being “mutual respect.”

Mutual respect is respecting someone for who they are, not for what sort of leadership position they hold. Mutual respect should be applied to your life, whether you have a leadership position or not. It builds a stronger connection with the people both under and over you through respect. If one person completes a task that was assigned by the leader/superior, it is usually because they either fear his/her authority, or they don't want consequences to befall them. These are not the reasons for following his/her instructions or completing the task.

The reason that we should be doing the task ahead of us is because we respect and care what

One Staff, One Family

our superior has to say. We should always have respect, not just for our superior or the people under our authority, but also for ourselves. Not to the point where we become prideful, but we need to show dignity and self confidence. We also need to know that we represent the leaders of tomorrow, and should exercise our leadership skills through mutual respect, and self respect.



Volleyball - C/SMSgt Francis Illuzzi

The cadet staff enjoyed participating in a series of games of volleyball. We all had a great time and learned a lot about teamwork. One of the highlights of the activity was being taught new volleyball techniques from staff who had previously participated in the sport of volleyball. A noteworthy item was that while the main game was going on, we formed two islands of people, one on each side, to practice our skills while waiting to join the main game. Another highlight was when the line staff and the support staff faced each other. It provided good, friendly competition for all. Overall, it was a successful activity and everyone had a great time.

Saturday's Saying of the Day:
"Empowerment Through Education!"

One Staff, One Family

Continuity Files & Staff Reports - C/Sra Griffin Endress

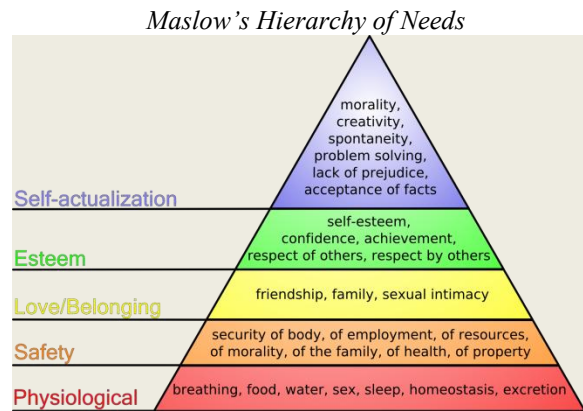
The staff members received instruction on how to format and complete their continuity files and staff reports. A continuity file is a continuous document that the staff member uses to record all of his/her actions, and creates a historical log of his/her area of responsibility during the RSTs and the Encampment. A staff report is a document that is submitted by cadet OICs (Officer in Charge) and NCOICs (Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge) every two weeks that details the accomplishments pertaining to his/her team. The staff report also includes suggestions and goals for Encampment, and is included in the continuity file. This record keeping is necessary because it carries on the operations without reinventing the wheel. These documents can be accessed by subsequent year's cadet staffs to provide valuable insights. They can also help the C4 be completely aware of any situation that develops in any one of the teams. C/C Lt Serenity Fung sent out an e-mail with an attached template to help the staff create their continuity files. The files more often than not end up being over one hundred pages long, so they are kept digitally to avoid unnecessary printing. The making and reviewing of these documents largely impacts the way the Encampment is run, and in turn, the level of knowledge the basics gain from the experience.



Prioritization - C/CMSgt Stephen Fung, C/SrA Griffin Endress, and C/SrA Brett Martin

Another training session, led by our Encampment Commander, Captain Maver, focused on prioritization. Prioritization entails knowing what basic things must be done in order to achieve the greater goals that one has set. Without laying the foundation a house cannot be built properly. In order to run a successful cadet-run encampment, the cadet staff must understand that the basic's primary needs come first. Without proper care the cadets won't be able to function effectively, and in turn will not maximize their full potential for success. Captain Maver continued with the topic of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, which is a chart that refers to the basic needs all humans require. Maslow's hierarchy of needs is often portrayed in the shape of a pyramid with the largest and most important levels of needs at the bottom and then it works its way up by order of significance. The most basic need is physiological, such as food and water. The next level is Safety, which refers to the feeling of security, followed by Love and Belonging, which are our emotional needs. The fourth level is Esteem, which covers self-respect and confidence. The final level is Self-actualization, meaning an understanding of your personality and traits and your acceptance of them. These concepts should be considered and analyzed by every good leader. They help leaders understand themselves and their followers. Capt Maver's last topic was of the OODA Loop (see adjacent picture), made by one John Boyd. It consists of the steps Observation, Orientation, Decision, and Action, hence, OODA, to make decisions both in your daily life and in critical situations. It is one of the foremost decision-making concepts in the field of combat operations processes as well as in daily life.

One Staff, One Family



Sunday's Saying of the Day:

"Learning For The Future!"

After-Action Reviews - C/CMSgt
Brian Yashinski

We concluded the RST with an After Action Review (AAR). During this AAR, a considerable number of points were discussed, one of which focused on Air Force customs and courtesies. The line staff, along with the Standards and Evaluations team, started planning what and how they will teach the basics during BE11. Another idea that was discussed was having an assortment of team games as well as volleyball during encampment. This would promote teamwork and provide relaxation to their busy days. Overall, the RST was extremely productive and is an exceptional start to the cadet staff training. The OPSEC (Operational Security) course was particularly informative regarding the guidelines on communications. We all look forward to another fantastic encampment experience, for staff and basics.



The PAO Staff for BE2011 --

C/CMSgt Stephen Y. Fung (OIC)

C/SrA Griffin Endress

C/SrA Brett Martin

C/SMSgt Francis Illuzzi

C/CMSgt Brian Yashinski (IT)

Senior Mentor: 2 Lt Jaqlyn Burckhardt

One Staff, One Family